

## Domino Sugar Presents Check to Groundwork

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**YONKERS** – Representatives of Domino Sugar recently boarded the Science Barge on Yonkers' waterfront check in hand in what has become a joyful annual event.



*L-R- Bob Walters, Ann-Marie Mitroff, Matt Shue, Stacey Hall. Photo provided*

“Thank you, Domino, for backing the Science Barge from the time we brought it to the Yonkers waterfront until today!” said Groundwork’s acting Executive Director, Ann-Marie Mitroff, after receiving a check for \$10,000 from Matt Shue, the plant’s Refinery Manager.

Domino has been refining sugar along the banks of the Hudson River since 1921. The Yonkers facility, just two blocks south of the Science Barge, is one of three major Domino refineries in the US. The other two are in Baltimore, Maryland and Chalmetta, Louisiana.

“We are lucky to have had this generous support from our good neighbors every year since the Barge came to Yonkers in 2008,” said Barge Director Bob Walters.

The Barge, owned by Groundwork Hudson Valley, recently received new solar panels and a new Iron Edison battery bank, doubling its capacity to produce and save energy to power its greenhouse growing systems. With this upgraded solar system and its wind turbines and rain water catchment system, the Barge is able to operate entirely off the grid.

“At ASR Group, we are always looking for ways to promote sustainability, both at our refinery and within the Yonkers community, which is why we’ve been glad to support the Science Barge for all of these years. In addition to its focus on sustainability and renewable energy, the STEM-centered educational programs offered by Groundwork are another reason why we’re so happy to support the Science Barge,” said Shue.

Science Barge educators are now rolling out new climate change curricula, thanks to a recent grant from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association (NOAA) to provide cutting-edge education in climate change and resiliency to Yonkers school students over the next two years.

The program, called “Global, Local, Coastal — Preparing the Next Generation for a Changing Planet,” will also be conducted at CURB and Groundwork’s EcoHouse.

New exhibits have been installed on the Barge to help build awareness and understanding about the impact of climate change among students and weekend visitors.